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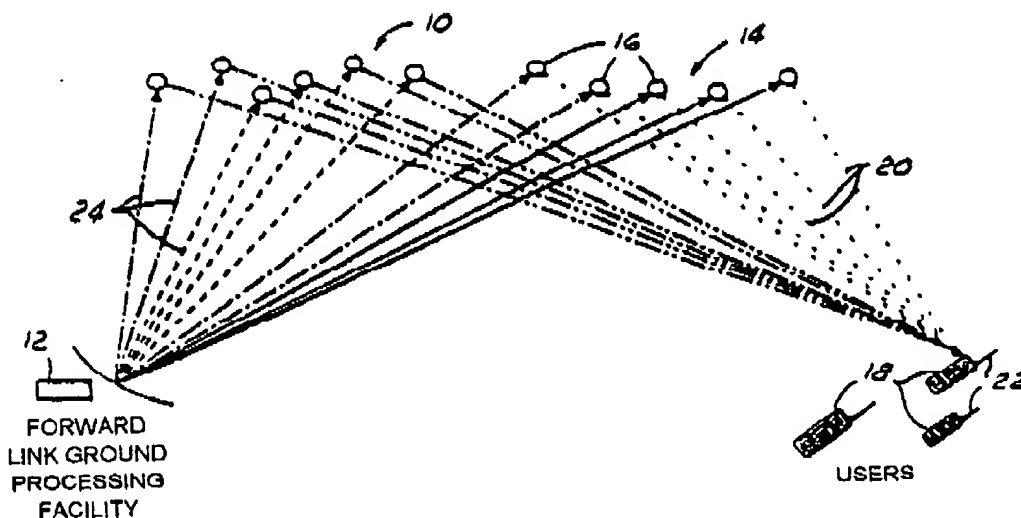
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(54) Title: MULTI-NODE POINT-TO-POINT SATELLITE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM EMPLOYING MULTIPLE GEO  
SATELLITES



(57) Abstract: A wireless communication system (10) includes a satellite constellation consisting of a plurality of satellites (106, 108). Each of the plurality of satellites (106, 108) is in an orbit whose eccentricity and inclination are perturbed relative to the same geosynchronous orbit. Each of the satellites (106, 108) in the constellation is capable of relaying signals in either direction between a central ground hub (12) and a plurality of mobile user terminals (18). The plurality of satellites (106, 108) are configured such that the period of their geosynchronous orbit remains substantially constant at one sidereal day.

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